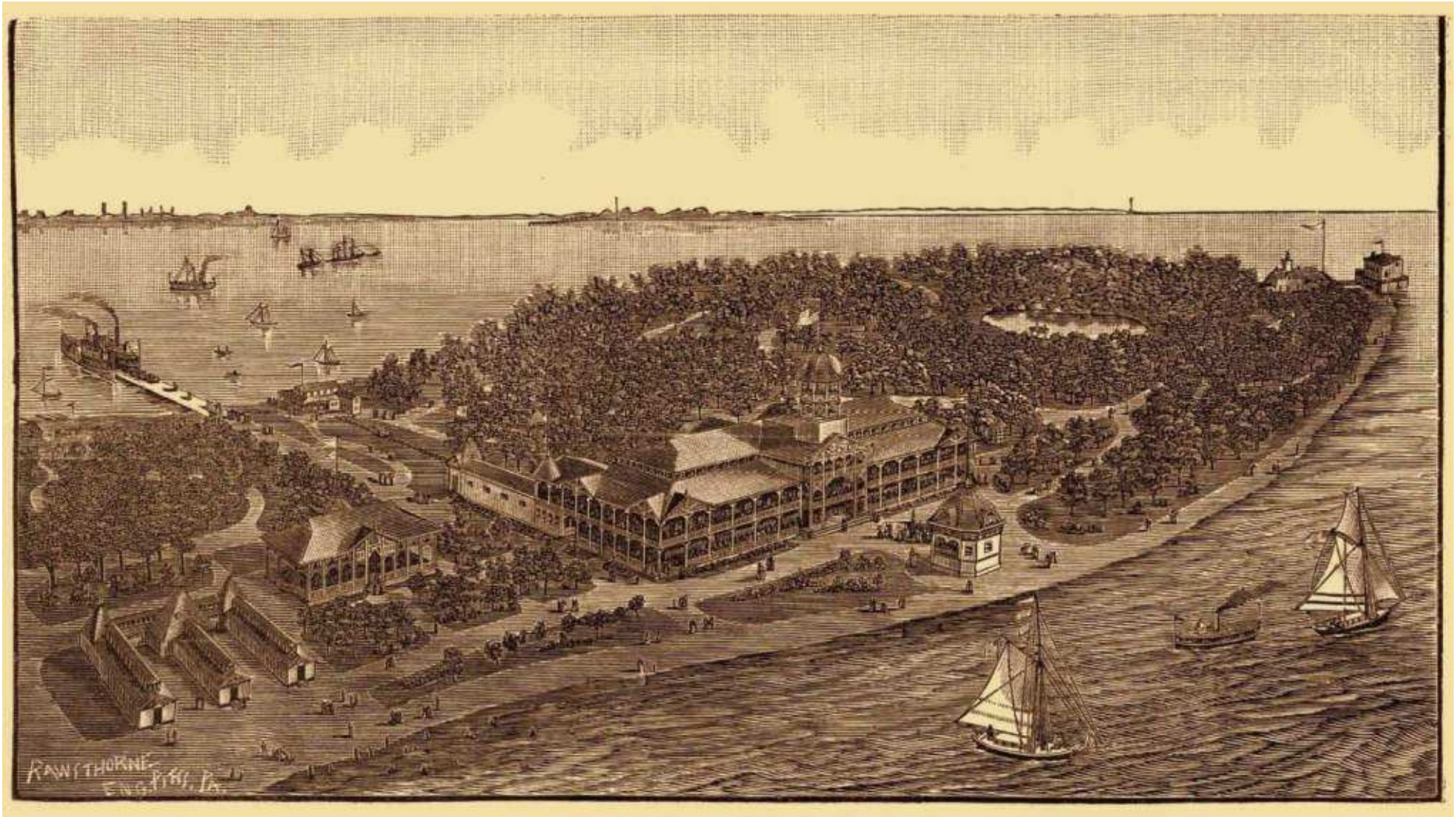
' CEDAR POINT PLEASURE RESORT '

(as documented and artistically illustrated in the '1888' booklet,
'*SANDUSKY OF TO-DAY*';
and with contemporaneous photos and additional references)



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF CEDAR POINT.

[Note (2021): in '1888' (etc.), *"Cedar Point"* was a reference to the entire 'peninsula' (approx. 7 miles long). The official name of this 'resort', (at a small area of this peninsula), was '*Cedar Point Pleasure Resort*'. ('1888' was its *"1st season"* under that name, but this resort, itself, had actually been established in 1882.)]

CEDAR POINT PLEASURE RESORT.

THE CONEY ISLAND OF THE WEST.

ITS IMMEDIATE ASSOCIATION WITH SANDUSKY AND IST MATCHLESS ATTRACTIONS.

A spot, more beauteous, lovely, fair,
Our chain of Lakes at no point share.
Where aged and youth can ever find
Pleasures adapted to each mind.

THERE is an old maxim that "a new broom sweeps clean." And should it further possess all the essentials of durability, why should it not also sweep long? So with Cedar Point, this, its first season. Though of comparative mushroom growth as a watering place or summer resort, in point of popularity it has assuredly led all others in this State. And this fact, added to its permanent advantages, promises even increased success in the future. Lavishly endowed by nature, and crowned by enterprise that realizes no scruples in pecuniary outlay, already has this charming spot deservedly won for itself the flattering distinction of

THE "CONEY ISLAND" OF THE WEST.

If the Great Creator ever specially designed a place for a salubrious summer retreat, this must be the one, for it offers all the manifold attractions of grove and lake. It is a narrow neck of land thickly wooded, extending out from the mainland east of Sandusky City, in a partial circle, a distance of several miles, and forms the Southern land head to Sandusky Bay. A large light house, a stately stone edifice, the home of the Government light keeper, with a wharf for the landing of small boats are the only signs of habitation at its northern end. Scarce a stone's throw away pass the fleet steamers that ply daily between Sandusky, the Islands, and Detroit, Toledo and Cleveland. Here also go the great propellers and schooners of the inter-lake navigation lines that come loaded with immense cargoes of grain from Duluth, Milwaukee and Chicago, and ores from the iron ports of Northern Michigan, and convey back the coal from Ohio mines and the prepared foods and merchandise from the East for the great Northwest. To the southwest, three miles distant across the eastern arm of Sandusky Bay, lies the City of Sandusky, whence by rail come most of the

EXCURSIONS TO THE POINT FROM ALL PARTS OF THE STATE,

some four or five lines of railroad running thereto. A railroad track runs to the foot of the dock, and within only a few feet of the steamers, which run across every half hour in the height of the season. Ample and prompt provision is here made to convey parties over and return them for their re-

Note the comparison of Cedar Point (the peninsula) to 'Coney Island', (which had multiple independently owned --- and independently named --- resort enterprises upon it).
[Prophetically(?), about 80 years later, this "peninsula" indeed became an 'island'!]
Also notice (below): daily *"4,000 to 5,000"* people *"frequently"*, *"during the past season"* (in 1887).

spective trains, so many as 4,000 to 5,000 having frequently taken this trip in one day during the past season and not the most trivial accident of any description has occurred. As a sample of the boats specially retained for this service we proceed to describe

THE MAGNIFICENT STEAMER "R. B. HAYES."

This substantial and spacious boat was built in 1876 and is the private property of the Cedar Point Steamboat Company. It is of 164 tons tonnage with a magnificent high pressure engine, and is in command of Capt. Wm. Slackford, who has had extensive experience on the lakes and is recognized as one of the most careful, competent and gentlemanly masters on the lakes. Mr. Harry Witcher is mate, having had many years experience, and Mr. Chas. Sharpe, as engineer, is a thorough mechanic and competent official. Mr. Geo. C. Weyl is clerk, a most competent and gallant official. There is a neatly furnished ladies' cabin on board and everything to enhance the comfort and safety of passengers, while the entire boat is the pink of cleanliness.

THE SAIL ACROSS

From the city, being less than three miles, is a short one, occupying only about twenty minutes, and wholly on the bay, so that no sea-sickness threatens the traveler, however the wind may blow. Upon leaving the dock at Sandusky, a glance back will afford the view of a beautiful city of substantial business blocks, fine public buildings and extensive docks and shipping. As the boat heads to the Point, especially interesting, to the right, is the view of the extensive B. & O. docks, so fully described in this work, and the high tower seen beyond is the stand-pipe of the fine water works, also treated upon elsewhere in these pages. To the left—or northwest—nestling in the midst of the bay like a jewel, is Johnson's Island, where nearly 7,000 Con-

federate officers were held as prisoners during the war for the Union. To the west stretches Sandusky bay, a beautiful sheet of water varying from two and a half to five miles in width, while directly to the north lies Marblehead. Such is the charming view of land and water that entrances the traveler.

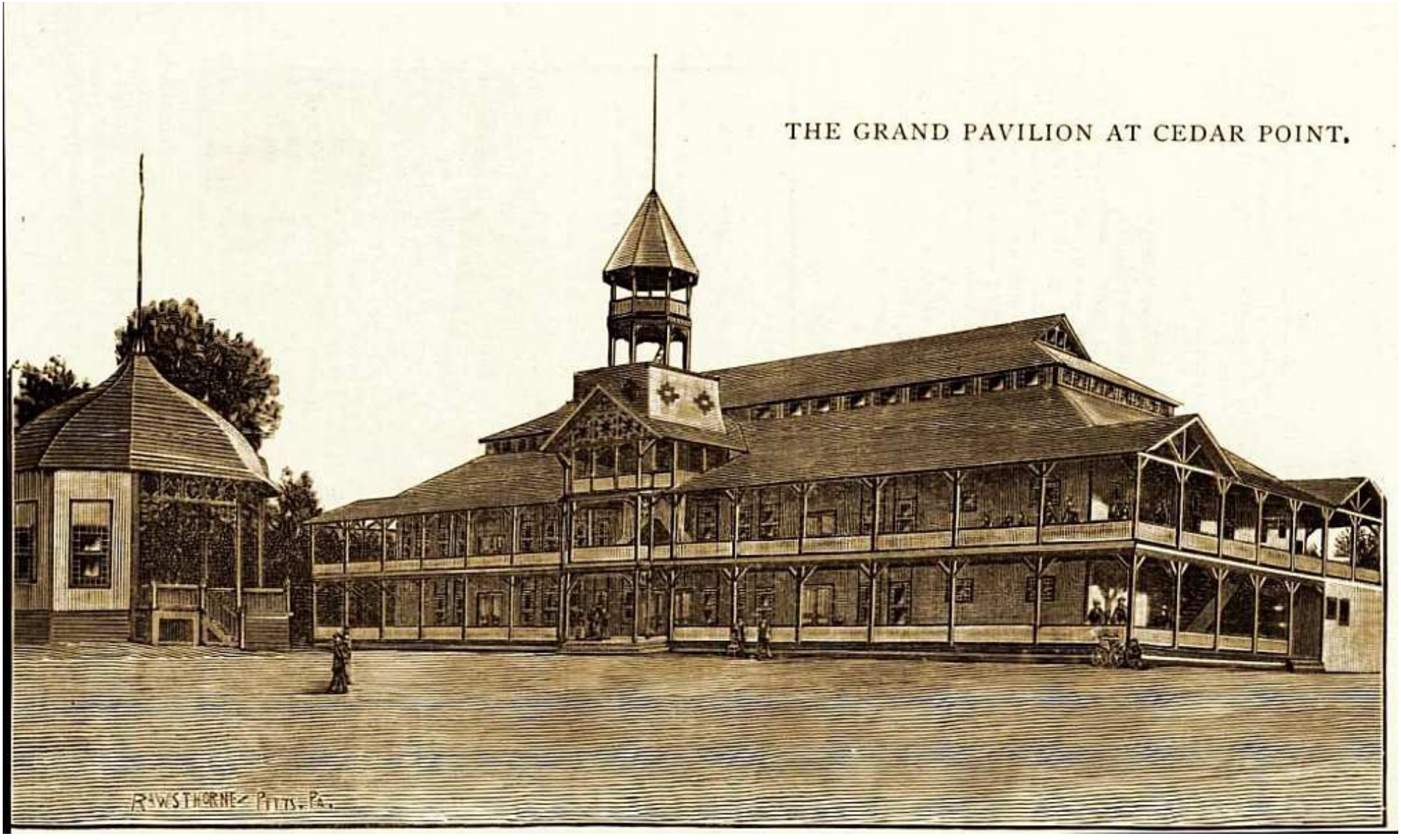
CEDAR POINT LANDING.

This will be found a splendid dock 450 feet long and 33 feet wide, built as firm and solid as stone, timber and spike can build. Its timbers are of oak, 10x10 in., interlocked and spiked into each other, every inch of space filled with stone, and heavy oak cross joist spiked and bolted together, supporting a two-inch plank floor that rests five feet above the water's edge. Up from the landing on the shore is the waiting house, a comely building 72x34 with wide porches on three sides, waiting room and restaurant. A fine walk twelve feet wide and admitting a company of men to march four abreast with ease, leads across the land through a beautiful grove to

THE GRAND PAVILION.

(*See illustration next page.*)

This magnificent building is in full view of the silvery beach and ever restless lake, commanding a prospect of unparalleled grandeur. The building is simply immense, combining all the features of a hotel, restaurant, opera house and visitors' general headquarters. In design it is of the Gothic style, with double roofs, and standing back but a few feet from the water's edge. It is 168x110 feet. On three sides extend twelve feet porches and wide sidewalks, and parade approaches lead up from every quarter. Massive entrance ways open into the main room, which is 144x60 feet, at a stage 33x60 feet extending across the entire end, having thereon a fine Decker Bros. concert grand piano. At the west entrance wide stairways lead up on each side to balconies above, that run across the west end and on each side the entire length. The side balconies are twelve feet wide and the end balcony twenty-four feet. The floor of the main auditorium is twenty-six feet from the floor to the balconies and fifty feet to the upper ceiling. The double roofs, with windows of cathedral many-colored glass between, are supported by sixty-feet stringers and heavy iron rods and cross braces above. These massive supports, with the ceiling, are painted light blue with red trimmings. Twenty-four chandeliers of three gas jets each, placed every sixteen feet along each balcony line, with corresponding jets over the balconies, light this great room at night most brilliantly. The company manufacture their own gas, using a Detroit combination machine, and have 250 gas jets in the building. All the windows on the lower floors and above are of cathedral glass, having twelve small panels and six to eight tints and colors. An outer corridor and stairway direct to the balconies affords an entrance and exit separate from the main room. Along the west side of the lower main room, and opening directly into them by large sliding doors every few feet, are the kitchens, 26x34, equipped with every modern appliance, including a two-story refrigerator. And, by the way, let us state that an efficient professional cook here provides meals at all hours, at the request of guests. The bar room, 66 feet long by 24 feet wide, is elegantly finished in natural woods, and next to this, but still separated by a thirty-six feet spectators' room, is the bowling alley, comprising three sixty-six feet alleys. Directly off from the west upper balcony are the officers' and helpers' rooms and also a private dining room for small parties desiring to be served alone. Mr. D. L. Stine, of Toledo, was architect of this grand structure, and Mr. A. G. Fettel, of Sandusky, to whom the lion's mead of



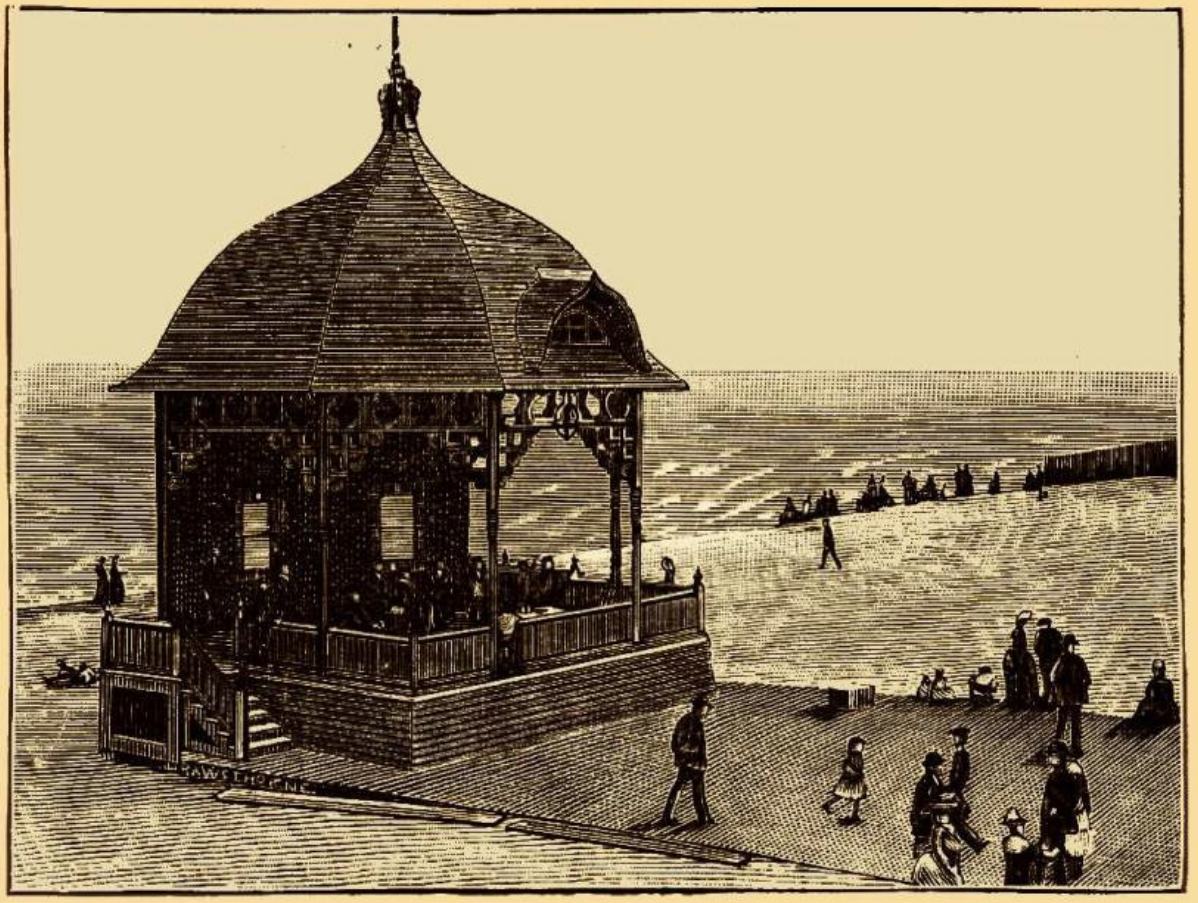
THE GRAND PAVILION AT CEDAR POINT.

credit is due, was the builder of the whole structures, Mr. C. Bauman, with exceeding good taste, conducting the entire painting and decorating. The water for the building is supplied from a steel tank thirty-two feet high, holding 10,000 gallons and pumped in by steam power from a caisson sunk in the sand near the lake, into which the water filters, thus furnishing absolutely pure sand filtered water.

ITS FACILITIES, CAPACITY AND TOWER VIEWS.

The building is equipped from entrance to exit with every modern convenience for the comfort of visitors and prompt service. Dressing and toilet rooms are on both floors, and elevators running from kitchen to balconcies. The auditorium is seated with chairs and plenty of tables, and 2,500 people can sit comfortably within its walls. A tower rising seventy feet above the front, overlooking the lake, affords a magnificent view over land and water—the vast expanse of Lake Erie, to the east touching the horizon, to the southward, the long line of Cedar Point beach, to the northward the entrance to Sandusky Bay, Marblehead shore and light-house, and a little to the right beyond, Kelley's Island, outlining the horizon. A lovlier view was never seen, from even Italy's fairest shores. In front of the main building, constructed on the sandy beach, and in full view of the lake, probably 100 feet from the balconies, is also

A MAGNIFICENT MUSIC PAGODA.



This consists of an artistically designed octagonal structure with ample accommodation for a band of forty to sixty pieces. It is so built as to especially convey the music to the main building, the side facing the lake containing windows and a number of stained glass lights that have a charming effect. It forms a singularly pleasant and cool position for the band, while giving free circulation to the music all over the grounds.

THE MATCHLESS SILVERY BATHING BEACH.

Where the tall and the short, the fat and the lean,
Indulging aquatics are constantly seen,
As lively as minnows, or clumsy as whales,
Each building up health, while pleasure prevails.

It is safe to say that a finer bathing beach than the one at Cedar Point is not to be found in America—nor in Europe, for that matter—as it is absolutely perfect for aquatic sports. A broad, gently sloping margin of soft, silvery sand separates the shady grove from the water, which ceaselessly beats and breaks over a shelving shore that extends in a slightly curved line for at least seven miles. The water at no point along the shore is deep, but the beach gradually slopes down an incline, and the happy bather walks out with perfect safety for many rods on a bottom of pure, fine sand, absolutely free from mud, stones, sticks or other obstruction. Even little children can run along the edge of the water, not deeper than their feet, or wade out 100 feet without getting out of their depth, while an adult can go out, with the utmost safety, much farther (though he cannot swim) traveling over two or three sand bars which hedge in somewhat deeper water. Still, the expert swimmer has an equal opportunity to gratify his accomplishments. A few hundred feet south from the grand pavilion, on the beach, there are

FINE BATH HOUSES

constructed in a double L shape, with distinct apartments for gentlemen and ladies, the manager's office and a reception room dividing the two departments. Each side consists of a long row of private dressing rooms that open into a passage way leading down an incline into the water. Each of these small rooms is conveniently fitted, and bathing suits for 300 to 400 persons are kept constantly on hand. Bathers receive no lack of attentions, while the cleanliness and strict privacy of every department is largely appreciated. Some 50 to 100 feet in the rear of the bath houses, and liberally shaded by towering trees, is

THE LADIES' PAVILION,

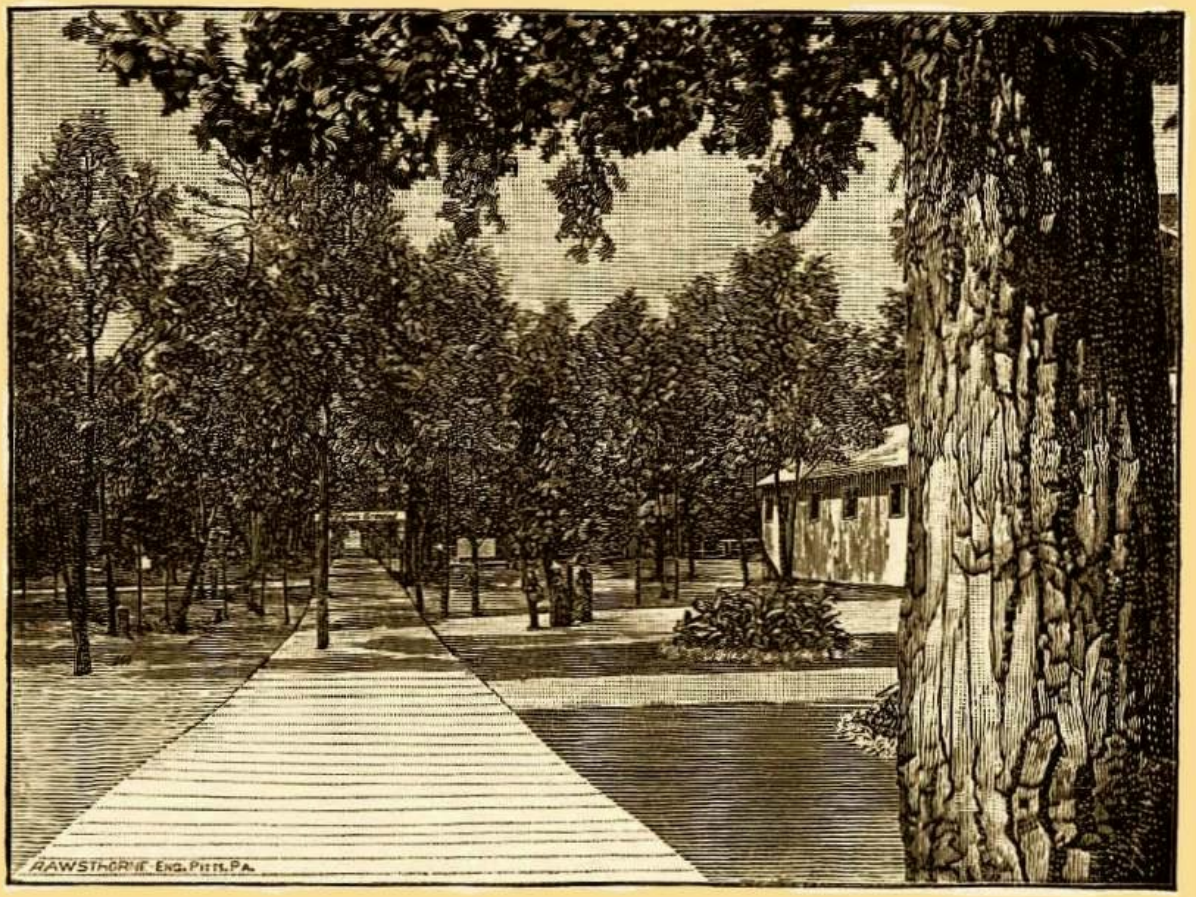
an open and elegantly constructed building 30x50 feet, where ladies can associate by themselves in the indulgence of ice cream, fruits, soda water and other light beverages. A fine soda water founntain is here found, with cakes and other refreshments. Tea and coffee are also served here, and being only a few hundred feet from the "pagoda," the selections performed by the band are here heard to the very best effect.

THE GREAT WESTERN BAND.

This efficient musical organization, which has no compeer in the State, and has taken ten first-class prizes, was established in 1866, by Mr. Chas. Baetz, the present efficient general manager at Cedar Point, who was its leader down to last year, when he was compelled to resign for his present position. Originally the band numbered twenty pieces, but to-day only commands fifteen. Mr. Baetz was succeeded as band master and leader by Mr. J. Henry Gardner, who is unquestionably a master in his profession. The old band still keeps up its high grade of efficiency and is frequently listened to with marked surprise in comparison with most of the rural bands attending excursions. It contains no less than seven or eight exceedingly fine soloists, and handles the finest and most difficult selections of the day. Throughout the summer this band gives free concerts in the grand pavilion

nearly every afternoon and evening, and very frequently contributes quadrille music, when the spacious floor of the great hall is transposed into an immense ball room.

THE PUBLIC PIC-NIC GROUNDS,



These are approached by comfortable board walks from several directions, and affording accommodations for an unlimited number of persons. Here is also another band stand, tables and seats being also placed around on every hand.

VARIOUS AMUSEMENTS AND PASTIMES.

In addition to an excellent photograph gallery on the grounds, will be found shooting galleries, flying horses, a number of swings, "Aunt Sally," etc., and several excellent spots to indulge base ball, tennis, foot ball or other sports. There are also excellent sail and row boats at command, together with poles, lines and bait for those who may desire fishing. And, by the way, it may be incidentally remarked here that some of the finest bass fishing on Lake Erie is found off the Point—not half a mile from the landing—where sportsmen every spring and fall resort from all parts to hook the famous bass.

A BEAUTIFUL LILLY POND.

In the middle of the extended forest, probably half a mile from the Point landing, there is a large pond and marsh of several acres, approached by boats from the bay, and covered with a profusion of pond lillies. There are three varieties—one white, with a pliant stem, another with stiff stem, and the other yellow, tinged with deep red. They are lovely flowers, and there is almost an unlimited supply of them every season.

FAMOUS CEDAR POINT.

Who has not heard of Cedar Point—Lake Erie's Eden spot?
Where health and happiness restores your ills—it mattereth not.
Or when from business cares you feel your temper out of joint,
A quarter grasp and board the *Hayes* for famous Cedar Point.
"Pull in your head-line," cries the "Cap," a whistle and off she scoots—
At fifteen knots an hour, or more, you're safe to "bet your boots."
The bay is cross'd—and as you land, you feel you've reached the goal,
For nature's beauties quick entrance, enough to fill your soul.

'Tis the cool, refreshing breeze, and sun's celestial rays,
Co-mingling to produce an air that lengthens out life's days.
Mosquitoes never venture there, though of human nature fond,
But you will find in fragrance bloom a lovely lilly pond.
'Tis there you'll matchless music hear: a bath with pleasure take—
Or exercise your muscles with a rowboat on the lake.
There lovely forest walks abound, amusements ev'ry kind,
And as to choice refreshments—why! the best—'tis there you'll find.

The old folk there can sit and chat—recanting days of yore,
As with a smile they much enjoy the young folk on the shore.
The middle-aged and youth can blend the pleasures of to-day—
And all enjoy a glorious time for mighty small outlay.
No matter, sire or grand sire takes this trip for rest or ease—
They'll find abundant pleasures there, their varied tastes to please.
'Twill add to life—'twill bring redress, where trouble would annoint,
A panacea for ev'ry ill is famous CEDAR POINT.

[Again, note that, technically, "Cedar Point" was the "peninsula". This '1888' resort, upon it, was named 'Cedar Point Pleasure Resort', (*"its first season"* with that name).]

HERE ARE SOME LATER (CIRCA-1898) PHOTOS AND NEWSPAPER ITEMS.

[The bath house at ' *Cedar Point Pleasure Resort* ' (as viewed from Lake Erie).]

In essence, the '1898' season, was the beginning of "phase two" of Cedar Point Pleasure Resort :

GRAND OPENING OF CEDAR POINT PLEASURE RESORT, SUNDAY, MAY 29th, 1898.

On May 29th this famous resort opens its season under new management. Extensive and magnificent improvements have been made in every department. The best of attractions have been booked, thus insuring high-class and popular entertainments, differing entirely from those that have been heretofore seen at this resort.

The pavilion has been thoroughly remodeled, the stage enlarged and beautified by a complete set of new scenery. A mammoth bicycle track has been erected and exciting bicycle races will be conducted thereon during the season. It is doubtful if any resort in America can compare with Cedar Point, with its smooth and silvery bathing beach, provided with adequate equipments and sloping so gradually to deep water that it furnishes perfect security for all kinds of aquatic amusements, well appointed bathing houses, spacious buildings, broad verandas commanding a superb view of Lake Erie and Sandusky Bay, in fact, every device known to an up-to-date pleasure resort. Miles of board walks through shaded groves, amid rustic surroundings or over shining sands, the ever present "Merry-Go-Round," the every popular bowling alley, swings, a Ferris Wheel, lawn tennis courts, base ball grounds, a shooting gallery, these and many other amusements are there to while away the hours.

The new management are making a strong bid for popular favor and intend to make Cedar Point the best, if not the greatest, summer resort in America.

The steamers A. Wehrle, Jr., and R. B. Hays make half hour trips from their wharf to Cedar Point and no more delightful ride can be imagined than a trip across Sandusky Bay. The music at the Point will be up to the highest standard of excellence. An efficient uniformed police force will maintain order and decorum.

Excursion and picnic parties may now make their arrangements to visit Cedar Point Pleasure Resort and any application addressed to Manager G. A. Boeckling, Cedar Point Pleasure Resort Co., Sandusky, O., will receive immediate attention. Information may also be obtained by calling upon any agent of any railroad or steamboat line who will be pleased to furnish all particulars or information relative to this ideal resort.

[And, oddly, throughout the first half of the 20th-Century, "1898" continued to be honored as the "first season" of '*Cedar Point Pleasure Resort*' (instead of '1888').]

HERE ARE MORE ITEMS FROM THE “SECOND PHASE” OF 'CEDAR POINT PLEASURE RESORT' :

THE MORNING STAR, MONDAY, MAY 23, 1898.

Cedar Point Pleasure Resort

SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 28.

THE EVENT OF THE SEASON--GRAND MUSICAL FESTIVAL

Under the Auspices of the

PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Assisted by the ORPHEUS CLUB of Columbus, O.

25 cents round trip on boats including admission to musical.

NOTE.—Tickets for this occasion can be purchased at Melville's drug store, and reserved seats secured without extra charge.

ONLY MUSICAL TICKETS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR THIS EVENT.

THE NEXT IMAGES ARE FROM *BEESON'S MARINE DIRECTORY,* 1899
(with the original 'captions').

VIEW ON CEDAR POINT PLEASURE RESORT GROUNDS, SANDUSKY BAY, LAKE ERIE.

REGATTA DAY—SANDUSKY YACHT CLUB RACES OFF CEDAR POINT PLEASURE RESORT ON LAKE ERIE.

SUNSET ON SANDUSKY BAY OFF BEAUTIFUL CEDAR POINT, LAKE ERIE.

[As a reminder: "Cedar Point" merely refers to the entire "peninsula".]

Note that photo's caption: "*SUNSET ON SANDUSKY BAY*".

(But it was later published with a different and embellished caption, "Canoe Race", below.)

^ THAT SAME '1898' PHOTO WAS LATER UTILIZED FOR A POSTCARD, CIRCA-1908 v

(and artificially 'colorized', during its lithographic process).

[The "*1854*" at its lower right-hand corner, is merely an inventory number (not a 'year').]

(THE) BILLBOARD (mag.) - 1903 - Vol. 15 Issue 32

SANDUSKY, O.—Cedar Point Pleasure Resort (Geo. A. Boeckling, Mgr.) Bill at theatre week of July 19 includes Girrard and Gardner, comedy sketch; Casmore and Florence, German comedians; Flood Bros., comedy pantomimists.

NOTES.

Gentry Brothers' Dog and Pony Show gave two performances July 14, and did big business afternoon and evening.

Harris' Nickel Plate Show comes July 27.

Morris and Berger's United Carnival Company have billed the city from one end to the other announcing their coming Aug. 4-8.

EDWIN C. LeCLAIR.

Very few other references to the resort's full official name had been published by circa-1900, because the casual name of merely "Cedar Point" had become publicly synonymous, by then. And, in 1905, that official name, '*Cedar Point Pleasure Resort* ', was formally discontinued by the newly organized *Cedar Point Resort Company*.

(But subsequent references are unclear, whether the resort's new official name became "*Cedar Point Resort* "; or if instead another new name, '*Cedar Point On Lake Erie* ' was assigned at that same time, or soon afterward. [However, the official name of the "peninsula" (although actually an island, now), was, (and still, also, is?), Cedar Point. ?Therefore, the current 'resort', technically, is : '*Cedar Point*' on Cedar Point !]

See more details about the "first phase" (1888-1897), and also the "second phase"(1898-1905) of *'Cedar Point Pleasure Resort'*, by "C.P.P.-I.C.", at archive.org